

***DOE Commission
on Fire Safety and
Preparedness***

**Sub Committee #2 – Fire Protection
Systems and Code Compliance
Conference Call #1
Key Discussion Items and Notes
January 30, 2001**

Key Discussion Items

The following is a brief summary of **key discussion items** from the first conference call of Subcommittee #2 – Fire Protection Systems and Code Compliance held January 30th, 2001. Conference call participants are listed at the end of these notes.

Key Discussion Items:

- **Dan Arnold** was selected to serve as the Subcommittee Chair.
- The **scope** of the subcommittee was agreed upon by committee members to be as follows:
*The Subcommittee will provide advice on DOE's **comprehensive review** of fire safety and emergency management by assessing the review strategy to be used, information to be collected, and nature of the analysis intended to be used to evaluate **fire protection systems and code compliance** at DOE's facilities and sites.*
- **Strategic issues** discussed by subcommittee members relative to the agreed upon scope were:
 - Maximize use of existing information available relative to fire safety and preparedness,
 - Emphasis to be placed on gaining an appreciation of the “fire safety culture” within the Department to include its contractors, various sites, etc.,
 - DOE's comprehensive review strategy needs to be “defensible” and “logical” to include the mix of facilities to be reviewed (representative vs. comprehensive),
 - Need an understanding of the technical foundations and documentation of “deliberate non-conformances” (such as testing frequencies, etc.) and the documentation thereof at DOE facilities,
- **Discussion Items:**
 - **Dennis Kubicki** provided information that each DOE site has its own issues tracking system for fire code deficiencies and that a report can be generated for the Subcommittee.
 - It was noted that many DOE facilities likely rely on extensive active fire protection systems and, as such, the comprehensive review should look at the configuration management of such systems. Therefore, the DOE comprehensive plan should include a review of fire protection systems vertically from installation through maintenance, configuration control and impairment management.
 - **Questions** were asked about which fire safety-related codes and standards were used by DOE (i.e. Federal, NFPA, local, handbooks, building codes, etc.). **Dennis Kubicki** referred members to DOE's Standard 1066 for Fire Protection Design

Criteria.

- The Subcommittee expressed interest in understanding the contractual fire safety criteria for sites run by contractors and how such criteria are determined and by whom, especially to the extent criteria varies from DOE Standards both generally and in specific instances.
- In discussing the potential sites to be visited, the importance of looking at a wide spectrum of representative sites and facilities (varied geography, mission, nuclear/non-nuclear, fire safety “culture”, conditions, etc.) was emphasized.
- **Next Steps.** The Subcommittee is to review materials being made available to them, such as: the Integrated Management Plan; Implementation Guide for DOE Order 420.1; Fire Protection Design Criteria; DOE Standard 1066; and DNFSB Technical Report #27. Information is available through websites or information being mailed.

The Subcommittee should be prepared to discuss how to proceed with a **detailed review** of DOE’s proposed plan for completing a comprehensive review of fire safety programs and related emergency management capabilities during the next conference call.

- **Next conference** call of the Subcommittee is scheduled for 1:30 pm EST **Friday February 16th, 2001**. Conference call number will be provided by e-mail closer to the date of the call.

Conference Call Participants

- Commission Members:
 - Dan Arnold
 - Dr. Paul Croce
 - Tony O’Neill
 - Morgan Hurley for Kathleen Almand
- U.S. Department of Energy
 - Frank Russo, Designated Federal Official
 - Barbie Harshman, Federal Assistant
 - Dennis Kubicki, Senior Fire Protection Engineer
 - Bill Boyce, Fire Protection Engineer.
- RPI
 - Bill Hamilton
 - Melinda Watters